

HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

ROBERT AND CHRISTIANA
SPOUNCE CARLILE

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Christiana Spouncer, born Feb. 1, 1797, Bigbey, England, died Nov. 30, 1891, daughter of James and Ann Spouncer.

Children: Mary Carlile Cooper, Isaac, John, John Carlile, Robert, George and James.

Robert and Christiana Spouncer Carlile joined the Church in 1848 and in 1849 came to America and lived in Council Bluffs, Iowa, until 1852 when they crossed the plains in Captain Jolley's train. They settled in Palmyra, near the present city of Spanish Fork, Utah County. They were among the first settlers in Heber in 1859-60. Little is known of Robert, as he passed away in 1861 shortly after they came here and was one of the first to be buried in the Heber City cemetery.

After the settlers moved from the Fort, Christiana's home was a little log house on the corner of second north and second west where George Nelson now lives and it was later moved to the east corner where Buell's apartments now stand. She was often seen walking over the stubble ground on her bare feet with her shoes under her arm. When she came to the road she would put on her shoes. In this way she would save her shoes as shoes and money were very scarce.

The following accounts were submitted by her great grand-daughters:

Mrs. Martha Giles Erickson remembers her well—"My sister Ann Averett and I used to go and do her dishes and clean her house. She always thanked us. She appreciated everything that was done for her. She seemed to get comfort from her cats as there was so little a blind person could enjoy. She was kind to everyone and was a very nice old lady. She sat on her east porch much of the time. She was a woman of very few words, quiet but pleasant. She wore a cap around the house and when she went out she wore a little black bonnet shaped hat with black lace around the front.

She was a very tiny woman. I remember leading her over to my mother's home quite often."

Mrs. Emma J. Fortie states, "I remember going to see her many times and each time she would say, 'Come here, Honey, and let me measure you. I am your grandma.' Then she would put her hand on my head to see how tall I was."

She has always been known as Blind Grandma, as she was blind many years before her death. During her later years she lived with her son James (Uncle Jimmie) and with her son, George, at whose home she died at the age of 94 years.